

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 L-02 H-02 /092 W

----- 025060

R 150101Z MAY 75

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3753

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, EEC, CH

SUBJECT: EEC DELEGATION VISIT TO PRC

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH USLO OFFICER, BELGIAN AMBASSADOR
GROOTHAERT SAID THE VISIT TO PEKING LAST WEEK OF THE EEC
DELEGATION HEADED BY SIR CHRISTOPHER SOAMES WENT PRETTY
MUCH AS EXPECTED. IT WAS KNOWN, HE SAID, THAT THE CHINESE
WOULD MOST PROBABLY TAKE THE DECISION TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS
WITH THE EEC, AND THE BELGIANS HAD LEARNED (APPARENTLY
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DURING PRIME MINISTER TINDEMAN'S VISIT LAST MONTH) THAT SOME

STATEMENT ABOUT TAIWAN FROM THE EEC SIDE WOULD BE NECESSARY.
THIS WAS PASSED ON TO SOAMES WHO CAME TO PEKING
PREPARED WITH A SUITABLE STATEMENT.

2. WE ALSO HEARD THAT FOREIGN MINISTER CH'IAO KUAN-HUA
MADE IT CLEAR AT THE START OF HIS MEETING WITH SOAMES,
THAT CHINA HAD DECIDED TO APPOINT AN AMBASSADOR TO THE
EEC, BUT FIRST WANTED CLARIFICATION OF EEC VIEWS TOWARD
TAIWAN. AFTER THIS WAS GIVEN, CH'IAO SAID HE WAS
SATISFIED AND ASKED THAT THE VIEWS BE STATED PUBLICLY,
WHICH IS WHAT SOAMES DID IN HIS PEKING PRESS CONFERENCE
(REPORTED AFP MAY 8 AND NCNA MAY 10). SPECIFICALLY,
SOAMES SAID THAT MATTERS SUCH AS RECOGNITION DO NOT COME
WITHIN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EEC, BUT THAT ALL EEC
MEMBERS RECOGNIZE THE PRC AS THE SOLE LEGAL GOVERNMENT
OF CHINA AND HAD TAKEN POSITIONS WITH REGARD TO THE
TAIWAN QUESTION ACCEPTABLE TO THE PRC.

3. FRG AMBASSADOR PAULS TOLD US IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION
THAT PEKING WOULD NOT ASSIGN A NEW AMBASSADOR TO THE
EEC, BUT RATHER WOULD SIMPLY ACCREDIT THE PRC AMBASSADOR
IN BRUSSELS, LI LIEN-PI, CONCURRENTLY AS THEIR REPRESENT-
ATIVE FOR EEC.

4. IN THE COURSE OF THE VISIT TO PEKING, TWO MEETINGS
WERE HELD ON THE SUBJECT OF AN EEC/PRC TRADE AGREEMENT
ACCORDING TO BELGIAN FIRST SECRETARY FRANCIS RONSE, THE
MAIN POINTS DISCUSSED WERE MOST FAVORED NATION TREATMENT
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRC-EEC JOINT COMMITTEE,
WHICH WOULD PERIODICALLY REVIEW TRADE MATTERS BUT WHICH
WOULD NOT DISPLACE EXISTING JOINT COMMITTEES BETWEEN
CHINA AND INDIVIDUAL EEC MEMBERS. DISCUSSIONS
WILL RESUME IN BRUSSELS, AT A DATE TO BE DECIDED.

5. IN ONE MEETING ON THE TRADE AGREEMENT,
THE CHINESE SAID THE PRC HAS A DOUBLE COLUMN TARIFF TO
DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THOSE COUNTRIES TO WHICH IT DOES
OR DOES NOT ACCORD MFN TREATMENT. ECONOMIC OFFICERS
OF EEC COUNTRIES IN PEKING HAD NOT HEARD OF THIS BEFORE,
NOR HAVE WE, AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION
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WASHINGTON OR CONGEN HONG KONG MAY HAVE ON THIS.

6. COMMENT: THE IMPRESSION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF EEC
COUNTRIES IN PEKING TO WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN IS THAT THE
CHINESE DECISION IS STRICTLY POLITICAL, CONSISTENT WITH
PRC SUPPORT FOR A STRONG WESTERN EUROPE AGAINST THE
SOVIET THREAT. MOREOVER, THE WARM WELCOME THE CHINESE
GAVE THE EEC VISITORS AND THEIR RECEPTIVITY TO THE EEC

PROPOSAL FOR A TRADE AGREEMENT, STAND IN CONTRAST TO
THE COOL ATTITUDE THE SOVIETS HAVE TAKEN. SOME SPECULATE
THAT THE DECISION WAS ALSO AIMED AT HAVING A FAVORABLE
IMPACT ON THE FORTHCOMING UK VOTE ON THE QUESTION OF
EEC MEMBERSHIP, AND TIMED TO BECOME PUBLIC JUST PRIOR
TO VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-P'ING'S VISIT TO PARIS.
NONE HERE BELIEVE THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PRC-EEC
RELATIONS WILL HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON TRADE.
BUSH

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